

**ACTIVITY:** Diving

**CASE:** GSAF 1988.12.15

**DATE:** Thursday December 15, 1988

**LOCATION:** Valparaiso, Chile

**NAME:** Juan Luis Tapia Avalos

**BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** First Quarter, December 16, 1988

**ENVIRONMENT:** The Chilean coast has kelp beds in which divers seek large edible mollusks known locally as locos, *Concholepas concholepas*. Because locos have been heavily collected in shallower inshore waters, deeper diving became necessary. Chilean divers wear full wetsuits and often dive with a hookah. Most of them dive alone.

**NARRATIVE:** He was diving for locos when he was killed by the shark. His diving partners brought his body to shore.

**INJURY:** Fatal

**SPECIES:** The attack involved a white shark, 16 feet in length.

**SOURCE:** John E. McCosker and Alfredo Cea Engana (1984), pages 177-178



*Concholepas concholepas*